Composite Fitment Centres for Disabled

†1527. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up any composite fitment centres for the disabled;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of the States where this scheme has been implemented, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Apart from five Composite Regional Centres for manpower development and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, more than 100 districts have been identified for providing primary rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities living in remote and rural areas.

(c) The programme is being implemented in selected districts of all State/UT (except Delhi).

Expansion of network of Blind Schools

1528. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any concrete proposal to expand the network of blind schools all over the country;

(b) whether there is any plan to upgrade existing training facilities and schools;

(c) if so, the details of such a plan;

(d) whether such proposals have been referred to the Planning Commission;

(e) the reaction to such proposals;

(f) which States have been earmarked for initial action to step up blind activities; and

(g) the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The voluntary organization are already being encouraged by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment by way of giving financial assistance to the extent of 90% under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for persons with Disabilities, for, inter alia, running special schools for Children with disabilities, including visual impariment. In addition, the National Institute for the Visually Handicapped (NIVH), Deharadun is organizing twenty one courses for training of teachers for the visually impaired. Out of these, seven have been added during the current finanacial year, 2000-01. The number of teachers being trained has gone up to 417 in the current batch (2000-01) as compared to 282 during the last batch (1999-2000). NIVH is also running a Model School for visually handicapped children. It is from Nursery and upto 102. During the current session, 2000-2001, there are 175 students. This school is affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

(d) to (g) Do not arise.

CPSUs not fulfilling the statutory requirement of filling quota for physically handicapped

1529. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that none of the Central Public Sector Undertakings has fulfilled the statutory requirement of giving three per cent quota in employment and promotion for physiclly handicapped and disabled persons inspite of the instructions of Government to fulfil quota for physically handicapped by speical employment drive;

(b) the details of physically handicapped persons employed in Central Public Sector Undertakings; and

(c) whether Government are contemplating to take action against the Chief Executives of those Central Public Sector Undertakings, who have not fulfilled the statutory requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) All the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) are following instructions issued by Government from time to time with regard to reservation of persons with disabilities in services in accordance with the provisions of Section 33 of